

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A hybrid switching module includes a hybrid switching module processor data channel; a hybrid switching module main data channel; an input/output link data channel; a switch coupled to the hybrid switching module processor data channel; and a bridge coupled to the hybrid switching module main data channel; wherein the switch selectively coupled to the bridge and selectively coupled to the input/output link data channel, wherein the hybrid switching module processor data channel is thereby selectively coupled to the bridge and selectively coupled to the input/output link data channel.

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